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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Gail A. Alverson *et al.*

APPLICATION NO.:   09/361,671

FILED: July 27, 1999

FOR: **SYNCHRONIZATION TECHNIQUES IN A MULTITHREADED ENVIRONMENT**

EXAMINER: Majid A. Banankhah

ART UNIT: 2127

CONF. NO: 5810

Second Preliminary Amendment

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-37 and 43-56 and add claims 57-106.

1-37.   (Cancelled)

38.   A method in a computer system for accessing a buffer of data, the method comprising:

defining a write pointer to point to a location within the buffer;

when adding data to the buffer,

fetching the write pointer;

adding an indication of a size of the data to the write pointer; and

storing the data into the buffer starting at a location indicated by the fetched write pointer; and